

## Chapter 7

In this section, we'll take the first steps toward the final profile by making a page to display a user's name and profile photo

### 7.1 Showing Users

if Rails.env.development?

- restricts the debug information to the development environment
- only true when in development environment

Rails comes equipped with 3 environments

- test: for testing application
- development: default environment for the Rails console, for developing on workspace
- production: how application runs on live server

Want to run a console in a different environment ex: to debug a test? → \$ rails console test

Sass mixins allows a group of CSS rules to be packaged up and used for multiple elements.

REST: Representational State Transfer, representing data as resources that can be created, shown, updated, or destroyed which correspond to the four fundamental operations POST, GET, PATCH, and DELETE

Using to interact with users as a resource, to implement users database resources :users → provides application with all actions needed for a RESTful users resource including a routes for generating URLs

**debug** can help us understand what's going on in our application

**(byebug)** is a more direct way to get debugging information, powerful method for tracking down application errors

Gravatars are a convenient way to include user profile images without going through hassle of image uploading/cropping/storage → **gravatar\_for** helper function to return Gravatar image

### 7.2 Signup Form

**form\_for** helper method: builds a form using an Active Record object's attributes

**name:** allow Rails to construct initialization hash

**form:** Rails creates the form tag using the @user object because every Ruby object knows its own class, Rails figures out that @user is of class User

**post:** method to construct a form for creating a new object

```
<form action="/users" class="new_user" id="new_user" method="post">
```

### 7.3 Unsuccessful Signups

Initializing entire **params** hash is dangerous because it arranges to pass to **User.new** all data submitted by a user. Would allow any user of the site to gain administrative access.

How do you solve this problem?

Use *strong parameters* in the controller layer. This allows to specify which Parameters are required and which ones are permitted.

**empty?**: method returning true for an empty object and false otherwise

**any?**: method returning true if there are any elements present and false otherwise

**pluralize**: text helper that takes an integer argument and then returns the number with a properly pluralized version of its second argument

### 7.4 Successful Signups

Redirecting

- **redirect\_to @user**
- **redirect\_to user\_url(@user)**

**flash** method to display a temporary message, Bootstrap CSS supports styling for 4 such classes

- **:success** key for a message indicating a successful result
- **:danger** key for a message indicating a failed result
- **:info**: (More in chapter 11)
- **:warning**: (More in chapter 11)

### 7.5 Professional Grade Deployment

**SSL**: Secure Sockets Layer, fixes a potentially serious security flaw in our application, encrypts all relevant information before it leaves the local browser, easy to implement site-wide, makes our application immune to the critical session hijacking vulnerability discussed later in chapter 9

How to enable?

Uncomment a single line in **production.rb**

Set the **config** variable to force the use of SSL in production

```
# Force all access to the app over SSL, use Strict-Transport-Security,  
# and use secure cookies.
```

```
config.force_ssl = true
```

Puma: an HTTP server that is capable of handling a large number of incoming requests.

1. Include the puma gem in our Gemfile (default so we can skip this step)
2. Replace the default contents of the file **config/puma.rb** with the configuration shown in Listing 7.37 (Comes from Heroku documentation, don't need to understand it)
3. Make a **Procfile** to tell Heroku to run a Puma process in production, created in application root directory